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ABSTRACT

Educational and training benefits under theG. I. Bill of 1966 exist for Vietnam era and peacetime veterans. In 1974 New York State accounted for 513,000 Vietnam veterans and 248,000 peacetime veterans who are eligible for G.I. educational benefits, but only half of those eligible had applied for available benefits. Lack of adequate outreach and counseling services in different agencies and schools have contributed to the 14 percent unemployment rate of Vietnam veterans. A continuing increase in veteran population is projected with 80 percent eligible for postsecondary educational opportunities. A characterization of the Vietnam veteran is given in terms of location, age, educational background, and employment. Discharge procedures, available counseling, and G. I. benefits are described with reference to the various State agencies that offer information and assistance to veterans. Problems encountered are also discussed. Examples of programs that assist the veteran and a model program are given as a guide for veteran counselors. Problem areas in meeting the needs of the veterans are identified as related to limited federal funding, lack of interagency cooperation, and lack of outreach and counseling services. Appended material include documentation for the study. (EC)

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The New York State VIETNAM VETERAN

HIS IMMEDIATE AND CONTINUING NEEDS IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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Revised January, 1975

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education
Albany, New York 12230

THE NEW YORK STATE VIETNAM VETERAN: HIS IMMEDIATE AND CONTINUING NEEDS IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

BY

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Revised, January, 1975

The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education

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ABSTRACT

New York State currently has a resident population of over 500,000 Vietnam Era and 248,000 Peacetime veterans, most of whom are eligible for educational benefits under the 1966 GI Bill. By 1980, the Vietnam Era resident veterans will total over 1 million, of whom 480,000 will be eligible for GI benefits. Less than one-half of those eligible in 1974 had applied for benefits. Under present State programs, only about one-half of those eligible are expected to participate in 1980. The State could realize an additional one-half billion dollars in revenues each year if all of these veterans fully utilized available benefits.

Over 500,000 (80%) of these veterans are high school graduates who could benefit from post-secondary education, and yet veterans constituted only about 57,000 (7%) of the degree-credit enrollment in New York State in 1973-74. Diverse agencies across the State, lacking adequate outreach and counseling services, have not been able to reduce the 14% unemployment rate experienced by Vietnam Era veterans in New York State, or to encourage a rate of utilization of veterans benefits to match, at least, the national average. A serious effort, involving interagency cooperation and legislative support, is required to provide educational outreach and counseling services so that the New York State veterans may receive the training and education necessary for full employment and an improved quality of life. Such an effort has been proposed by the State Education Department's Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education. This report provides background information related to this proposal.

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Introduction	1
II.	New York State Veterans: Present and Future Population Size and Participation in GI Benefits	3
	A. Present Veteran Population and Benefit Participation Rates	3
	1. Population: Peacetime and Vietnam Era Veterans	3
	2. Benefit Participation Rates	4
	3. New York State Vietnam Era Veteran Participation in Post-Secondary Education	6
	B. Future Veteran Population and Projected Benefit Participation Rates	8
	1. Population Growth	8
	2. Projected Benefit Participation Rates	8
	a. Veterans Eligible for Benefits to 1985	8
	b. Cumulative Participation Rates to 1980	12
	c. Fiscal Year Participation to 1980	14
	C. Summary of Present and Future New York State Veteran Population and GI Benefit Participation	16
	1. Population	16
	2. Utilization of GI Benefits, April, 1974	16
	3. Projected Utilization of Benefits, December, 1980	16
	4. Target Population, 1974 and 1980	17
III.	Characterization of the Vietnam Era Veteran	18
	A. Location	18
	B. Age	18
	C. Educationally-Disadvantaged Vietnam Era Veterans	18
	D. Employment	19
IV.	Discharge Procedures, Available Counseling, and GI Benefits	21
	A. Discharge and the Veterans Administration	21
	B. New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs; Mayor's Office for Veteran Action	21
	C. New York State Labor Department	22
	D. Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee	22
	E. The Veterans Administration Campus Counselors	22
	F. GI Bill Benefits, Other Funding, School Costs, and Information on Post-Secondary Educational Opportunities	23
	1. GI Benefits	23
	2. Other Funding	24
	3. School Costs	25
	4. Information on Post-Secondary Educational Opportunities	25

Page

V. Some Unusual Efforts to Assist Veterans..... 27

A. Monroe Community College..... 27
B. Earlier Successful Outreach-Advertising Programs..... 28
C. Out-of-State Efforts..... 28
D. A Model Program..... 29
E. Summary..... 29

VI. 1973-1974 New York State Legislature: Bills for Veterans..... 31

VII. Problems and Needs of the Vietnam Era Veteran in New York State..... 32

A. Funding..... 32
B. Interagency Cooperation..... 32
C. Outreach and Counseling..... 32
1. The Vietnam Era Veteran..... 32
2. The Counselor..... 33
3. The Institution..... 33

APPENDIXES

A. New York State Vietnam Veteran Enrollment in Schools and Colleges April, 1974..... 35
California, New York, and National Vietnam Era Veteran Participation in GI Benefits..... 36
April, 1974, Cumulative Participation Rates by State..... 37
B. New York City Veteran Population..... 38
New York State Counties: 1970 Census of Veterans..... 39
Veterans in Regional Districts, 1970 and 1974 Estimate..... 41
C. New York State and New York City Educationally-Disadvantaged Veterans..... 43
D. Two-Year Colleges, New York State, with Designated Veterans Counselors..... 44
E. 1973 Cost-of-Instruction Awards..... 45
Fiscal Year 1973 Veterans Cost-of-Instruction Awards..... 46
F. Sources of Information: Veterans..... 49
G. Drugs and the Vietnam Era Veteran..... 52

TABLES AND FIGURES

Page

Peacetime and Vietnam Era New York State Veteran Population: 1967-1973.... 3

Cumulative Participation Rates for Vietnam Era Veterans in New York State.. 4

Fiscal Year Participation of Vietnam Era Veterans..... 5

Entitlement Exhaustion, New York State Vietnam Era Veterans..... 6

New York State Veteran Enrollment in Degree-Granting Institutions of Higher Learning, April, 1974..... 7

U. S. Veteran Student and New York State Veterans in Full- and Part-Time Study, March, 1974..... 7

Future Vietnam Era Veteran Population: 1974-1980..... 8

New York State Vietnam Era and Peacetime Veteran Population and Eligibility for Benefits..... 10

Veteran Population and Eligibility for Benefits..... 11

Projected Cumulative Participation Rates for New York State Vietnam Era Veterans..... 12

Cumulative Participation Rate Projections..... 13

Projected Fiscal Year Participation by New York State Vietnam Era Veterans..... 14

Fiscal Year Participation Projections..... 15

Veteran Population, Benefit Eligibility, and Non-Participation: 1974, 1980..... 17

U. S. Vietnam Era Veterans: Educational Level at the Time of Application for GI Benefits, April, 1974..... 19

Average College Costs for Students..... 25

THE NEW YORK STATE VIETNAM VETERAN: HIS IMMEDIATE AND CONTINUING NEEDS IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

I. Introduction

The following report characterizes the New York State Vietnam Era and Peacetime veterans eligible for educational and training benefits under the GI Bill of 1966. The age, educational background, location, and utilization of benefits by veterans are discussed. In addition, discharge and counseling procedures presently available, special programs to assist veterans, benefits, school costs, and educational opportunities are reviewed. The purpose of the report is to determine the unmet needs of these veterans, with particular reference to post-secondary education.

In April, 1974, the resident New York State population included 513,000 Vietnam Era veterans eligible for GI educational benefits for ten years from the date of discharge. An additional 248,000 Peacetime veterans resided in the State who are eligible for benefits until May 31, 1976. By 1980, the resident Vietnam Era veteran population will total 850,000 of whom 545,000 will be eligible for benefits under the ten-year rule. In New York State about 80% of these veterans are high school graduates and could, therefore, benefit from post-secondary educational opportunities, and yet the number of Vietnam Era veterans in New York State who have applied for benefits (42.2%, or 216,495) falls well behind the national (52.5%) and California (56.7%) averages for 1974. Approximately only 4% of those who had applied for benefits, in the eight years of the program, had used them to entitlement exhaustion in New York State. Among the non-participating Peacetime and Vietnam Era veterans in 1974 were 289,000 high school graduates. At the current benefit rate for a single veteran ($2430 for 9 months), New York State will lose $703 million in 1974 potential revenues because these eligible high school graduates do not participate in GI educational training benefits. Projections based on recent benefit utilization rates indicate that, in 1980, a large group of eligible veterans (estimated at 184,000 minimum) will be non-participants; the State will fail to realize nearly one-half billion in revenues by their non-participation. These non-participants constitute a large potential student body at the very stage of declining college enrollments.

The Vietnam Era veterans are, typically, in their late twenties; nearly 45% are estimated to live in New York City alone. If residing in New York City, the veteran may visit two "one-stop" centers, the Mayor's Office for Veteran Action, or the Veterans Administration Office for information on employment and benefits available. Across the State, employment aid may be found in county offices of the State Labor Department, Veterans Administration offices, and the New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs offices. None of these agencies provides an outreach service and, although educational referral may be available from them, the information is often limited and may be restricted to on-the-job training programs. A measure of their efficacy may lie in the fact that the Vietnam Era veterans suffer a 14% unemployment rate. Less than one-third of the community colleges provide their own veterans' counselor; campuses with over 500 veterans enrolled may have a Veterans Administration

counselor whose responsibilities may preclude vital service to veterans. No State legislation was passed in the behalf of veterans in 1974.

Although a variety of programs is available for veterans, none is designed to maximize their participation in educational opportunities. Those who work with Vietnam Era veterans note their apathy towards mailed information, their desire to be associated with fellow veteran colleagues, and their dependency on outreach and special programs designed to increase motivation. Thus, the fundamental needs of these veterans appear to fall into three categories: (1) the need for a coordinated program of educational outreach and counseling--personal, academic, and career-oriented; (2) the need for increased interagency cooperation, coordination, and support in order that veterans may readily have access to available educational and training opportunities and information; and (3) the need for State Legislative support and programs enabling veterans to partake of educational programs during a period of rapidly rising costs. To meet the first need, the State Education Department's Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education has proposed a series of regional workshops designed to provide veterans with outreach and counseling for post-secondary programs. New York State has long been an advocate and provider of educational opportunities for its youth. To fail in the provision of adequate educational services for veterans would be to deny them the right to be full and contributing members of our society.

II. New York State Veterans: Present and Future Population Size and Participation in GI Benefits

The following chapter describes the present and estimated future population size of New York State Peacetime* and Vietnam Era** veterans. In addition, the utilization of benefits under the current GI Bill is discussed, with particular reference to participation in post-secondary education in New York State. The current benefit utilization rates are also projected over the next five years to indicate the size of the target population for programs designed to encourage veterans to utilize available benefits. The salient data are summarized at the end of this chapter.

A. Present Veteran Population and Benefit Participation Rates

1. Population: Peacetime and Vietnam Era Veterans

According to the 1970 U. S. Census Data, over 2.5 million of the 6 million New York State males (16 and over) were veterans who served in World War II, Korean, Post-Korean, or Vietnam eras. Although the World War II and Korean veterans may well have educational needs, these veterans are, for report purposes, considered to be part of the general adult population of the State. The following study is restricted to those veterans who are, or will be, eligible for GI Bill educational benefits.

The GI Bill of 1966, with its amendments, provides benefits for both Peacetime* and Vietnam Era** veterans in the United States. As of December, 1973, there were 248,000 Peacetime veterans and 500,000 Vietnam Era veterans residing in New York State. In the six years from 1967 to 1973, the Vietnam Era population more than tripled, while the Peacetime veteran population declined by 20,000 (Table 1).

Table 1

Peacetime and Vietnam Era New York State Veteran Population: 1967-1973

Year	Vietnam Era	Peacetime
Dec., 1967	154,000	268,000
Dec., 1968	230,000	262,000
Dec., 1969	305,000	260,000
Dec., 1970	383,000	258,000
Dec., 1971	458,000	255,000
Dec., 1972	463,000	251,000
Dec., 1973	500,000	248,000

(Source: Staff Member of Federal Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.)

*Peacetime veterans served in the Armed Forces from January 31, 1955, up to August 4, 1964. They are eligible for benefits until May 31, 1976.
**Vietnam Era veterans are those who served on or after August 5, 1964. They are eligible for benefits up to ten years from the date of discharge.

2. Benefit Participation Rates

The following data on the utilization of GI educational benefits by New York State veterans are derived from bulletins published two to three times each year by the Federal Veterans Administration, Department of Veterans Benefits, and entitled "Veterans Benefits Under Current Educational Programs." Although similar information may be gathered from several other sources*, the Veterans Benefits bulletin was selected as a readily available and comprehensive source. For each state the VA bulletin describes benefit utilization by Vietnam Era veterans by two methods: cumulative participation rate and fiscal year participation.

The cumulative participation rate indicates the percent of the currently resident Vietnam Era veteran population that has applied for benefits since, June 1, 1966. Table 2, for example, illustrates that about 42%, or 216,495, of the 513,000 resident Vietnam Era veterans had applied for GI educational benefits by April, 1974.

Table 2

Cumulative Participation Rates for Vietnam Era Veterans in New York State

Date	New York State Vietnam Era Veteran Population	Number of Cumulative Participants	Participants as Percent of Veteran Population
April, 1972	482,000	146,662	30.4
November, 1972	461,000	165,775	36.0
April, 1973	478,000	180,478	37.8
November, 1973	500,000	201,737	40.3
April, 1974	513,000	216,495	42.2

The cumulative participation rate is a useful indicator of: (1) the size of the non-participating but potentially eligible veteran population; (2) New York's position in comparison to other states and the nation as a whole; and (3) the number of new applicants for benefits each year. In April, 1974, 57.8% (or about 296,505) of the resident Vietnam Era veterans were potentially eligible for GI educational benefits but had never applied for them. Although New York State's participation rate exceeds that of a number of other states, it falls behind both California and the national average participation rate. California, for example, has a larger veteran population and has achieved a cumulative participation rate of nearly 57%. The national average participation rate has reached 52.5%. (See Appendix A)

*Other sources include: Federal Veterans Administration Statistical Bureau, New York State Labor Department's Office of Veterans Training and Employment, New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs, and the State Education Department's Bureau of Veterans Education.

Comparing the cumulative number of New York State GI benefit participants from year to year indicates that an average of 35,000 new participants is added each year. From one starkly simple point of view, this number tells us that it would take more than seven years before all of those presently eligible but non-participating New York State Vietnam Era veterans took advantage of their benefits*. In this simple case, with about 35,000 new participants added each year, none of the incoming veterans would be utilizing benefits.

The fiscal year participation, shown in Table 3, describes the total number of Vietnam Era veterans within the State who received GI benefits during the year. Figures for California and the U.S. are included for comparison. The fiscal year participants may be new, continuing, or re-entry participants. These veterans received benefits for training at institutions of higher learning and other schools, as well as on-the-job and apprenticeship training.

Table 3

Fiscal Year Participation of Vietnam Era Veterans

	1972			1973			1974**		
	Population	Number of Participants	Per Cent	Population	Number of Participants	Per Cent	Population	Number of Participants	Per Cent
New York	482,000	86,537	18	478,000	94,810	20	513,000	101,056	19.7
California	636,000	229,816	36	756,000	257,694	34	820,000	253,238	30.9
U.S.	5,885,000	1,496,916	25	6,476,000	1,686,597	26	7,002,000	1,536,724	21.9

Table 3 shows that, in each of the last two fiscal years, approximately 20% of the New York State total Vietnam veteran population participated in some form of training. In California, 34% of the veteran population was in training in 1973. Comparing the number of new participants each year (Table 2: 35,000) to the total participating in one year (Table 3: 101,056) shows

*Of 513,000 resident veterans, 216,495 have received benefits and 296,505 have never participated. Of the non-participants, 12.3% are ineligible for benefits because of dishonorable discharge or brevity of service. Thus, 260,035 veterans are strictly eligible for benefits but have never applied for them. At the present rate of 35,000 new applicants per year, it would take 7.4 years for all of the eligible but non-participating veterans to apply for benefits.

**The 1974 figures show a decline in fiscal year participation. The VA bulletin for April, 1974, presents these figures in a different format from that used in prior publications and it is presently unclear whether (a) the decline is real or (b) the 1974 figures are preliminary and final figures will appear in a later publication.

that about 35% of the fiscal year participants are new recipients of benefits; the remaining 65% are continuing or re-entry benefit recipients.

A third set of figures describing GI benefit participation is not published by, but comes from, the Federal Veterans Administration; namely, the number of Vietnam Era veterans who have fully used their available benefits. In eight years of participation, only 4.2% of those who have participated (216,495 as of April, 1974) have fully used their available benefits.

Table 4

Entitlement Exhaustion, New York State
Vietnam Era Veterans

	March, 1974	October, 1974
Total :	8,790	11,524
Buffalo Region:	2,614	3,528
Eastern New York Region:	6,176	7,996

Participation rates for Peacetime veterans are not presented by state in the VA bulletins. The published data on this group of veterans, who are eligible for benefits until May, 1976, covers only the national average figure. In April, 1974, approximately 36% of the U.S. Peacetime veterans had applied for GI educational benefits. If New York State Peacetime veterans follow the national average, then 89,280 (or 36%) of the 248,000 resident Peacetime veterans had applied for GI benefits by April, 1974. This cumulative participation rate is considerably lower than the Vietnam Era veteran national average (52.5%).

3. New York State Vietnam Era Veteran Participation in Post-Secondary Education

The 1970 Census data for New York State indicate that at least 80% of the veterans in the 16 to 29 age group were high school graduates. (See Appendix C.) This figure may be an underestimate, since the Federal VA estimates that, at the time of separation, 86% of the U.S. Vietnam Era veterans were high school graduates. Using the 80% figure as a fair approximation for New York State, one can estimate that 410,400 (80%) of the 513,000 Vietnam Era veterans resident in April, 1974, were high school graduates who could potentially benefit from post-secondary educational opportunities. Of the number who had actually applied for benefits (Table 2: 216,495), at least 173,196 (80%) are estimated to be high school graduates.

Despite the large number of Vietnam Era veterans with at least a high school education, the number attending institutions of higher learning remains low. Table 5 illustrates the 55,847 Vietnam Era veterans who were enrolled in April, 1974, in degree-

granting post-secondary institutions in New York State. Thus, of all the Vietnam Era veterans in training in 1974 (Table 3: 101,056), less than 56% were in post-secondary degree-granting institutions. The total degree-credit enrollment in New York State colleges in 1973-1974 was 885,765; the veterans, therefore, represent less than 7% of the New York State degree-credit enrollment. Worthy of note in Table 5 is the extent of veteran enrollment in private colleges. Nearly thirty percent (16,632) of the total (55,847) veterans enrolled were in private four-year colleges.

Table 5

New York State Veteran Enrollment in Degree-Granting Institutions of Higher Learning, April, 1974

	Baccalaureate and Higher Degrees	Associate Degrees Only
State University of New York	7,049 (21.8%)	14,742 (63.6%)
City University of New York	8,570 (25.7%)	7,293 (30.8%)
Private	16,632 (51.6%)	559 (2.7%)
Proprietary	160 (.5%)	621 (2.5%)
Not Identified	124 (.4%)	97 (.4%)
Totals	32,535	23,312
Grand Total	55,847	

(Source: Bureau of Veterans Education, State Education Department)

The Vietnam Era veterans in New York State colleges engage in full-time and part-time studies consistent with the typical U.S. veteran student enrollment (Table 6).

Table 6

U.S. Veteran Student and New York State Veterans in Full- and Part-Time Study, March, 1974

	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
U.S. Veteran Students:			
Graduate	8.2%	4.8%	13.0%
Undergraduate	55.0%	32.0%	87.0%
Total	63.2%	36.8%	100.0%
New York State Veterans:			
Graduate	8.6%	4.0%	12.6%
Undergraduate	58.2%	29.2%	87.4%
Total	66.8%	33.2%	100.0%

(Source: Bureau of Veterans Education, State Education Department)

B. Future Veteran Population and Projected Benefit Participation Rates

1. Population Growth

No termination date for the Vietnam Era has been established by the Federal Government. Although servicemen discharged over the next five to ten years will not have served in the Vietnam War arena, they will still be eligible for educational benefits under the current GI Bill. The Veterans Administration and Department of Defense project that 500,000 veterans will be discharged annually in the United States; New York State will receive 9-10% of this population each year. Assuming, in the next five years, no termination date for the Vietnam Era and no major wars, the New York State Vietnam Era veteran population will grow from a 1973 total of 500,000 to about 850,000 by 1980 (Table 7).

Table 7

Future Vietnam Era Veteran Population: 1974-1980

Year	Population
Dec., 1974	550,000
Dec., 1975	600,000
Dec., 1976	650,000
Dec., 1977	700,000
Dec., 1978	750,000
Dec., 1979	800,000
Dec., 1980	850,000

The number of resident Peacetime veterans may decline slightly by 1980 from the December, 1973, total of 248,000.

2. Projected Benefit Participation Rates

The data in the following sections indicate that New York State has a large resident veteran population which is expected to increase by 50,000 per year over the next five to ten years. The following section looks closely at this veteran population to indicate: (a) the total number of Peacetime and Vietnam Era veterans eligible for benefits through 1985; (b) the number estimated to have used some portion of their available benefits by 1980; and (c) the number expected to participate in training in any one year. The projections indicate the size of the target population; that is, the number of veterans who will be eligible for benefits but who will be non-participants. It is to this target population that outreach, counseling, and educational programs should be directed.

a. Veterans Eligible for Benefits to 1985

Peacetime veterans are eligible for GI educational benefits until May 31, 1976. Vietnam Era veterans are eligible for ten years from the date of discharge.

Table 8 and Figure 1 illustrate: (a) the population size by year, (b) the number eligible based on the date of discharge, and (c) the number of veterans strictly eligible for benefits. The last-named category, the strictly eligible veterans, is a number which corrects for those within the ten-year limit of eligibility who are actually ineligible for benefits because of a dishonorable discharge or less than six months active duty. The number ineligible for benefits is estimated by the Veterans Administration to be 12.3% of the veteran population. Thus, in 1980, there will be 545,000 Vietnam Era veterans eligible for benefits on the basis of their discharge within the last ten years. Of this number, 12.3% will have served less than six months or will have been dishonorably discharged. The number strictly eligible for benefits in 1980 will then be 477,965 (or 545,000 less 12.3%). By 1985 the number within the ten-year limit will total 550,000, of whom 482,350 will be strictly eligible for benefits.

Table 8 and Figure 1 are projected to 1985 to show that the number of veterans eligible for benefits declines somewhat until 1982 but then rises slightly and reaches a plateau level in 1985. The decline up to 1982 occurs for two reasons: (1) all of the 248,000 Peacetime veterans lose their eligibility for benefits in mid-1976; and (2) the number of new or incoming veterans is smaller than the number who lose benefits during the year because they exceed the 10-year limit of eligibility. An example of the latter case occurs in 1979-1980: the number of resident eligible veterans declines by 75,000 (from 270,000 to 195,000); the number of incoming, newly eligible veterans increases by only 50,000. Thus, the total number of eligible veterans declines by 25,000 between 1979 and 1980. The plateau in 1985 occurs when the number of newly eligible veterans exactly equals the number who lose benefits because they are beyond the ten-year limit.

Table 8

New York State Vietnam Era and Peacetime Veteran Population and Eligibility for Benefits (1)

Date (December)	Population (2)			Eligibility				
	Peacetime Veterans	Resident Vietnam Era Veterans	Incoming Vietnam Era Veterans	Peacetime Veterans	Resident Vietnam Era Veterans	Incoming Vietnam Era Veterans	Total Eligible By Date Of Discharge	Number Strictly Eligible
1973	248,000	500,000	0	248,000	500,000	0	748,000	655,996
1974	248,000	500,000	50,000	248,000	500,000	50,000	798,000	699,846
1975	248,000	500,000	100,000	248,000	500,000	100,000	848,000	743,696
1976	248,000	500,000	150,000	0	500,000	150,000	650,000	570,050
1977	248,000	500,000	200,000	0	500,000	200,000	700,000	613,900
1978	248,000	500,000	250,000	0	346,000	250,000	596,000	522,692
1979	248,000	500,000	300,000	0	270,000	300,000	570,000	499,890
1980	248,000	500,000	350,000	0	195,000	350,000	545,000	477,965
1981	248,000	500,000	400,000	0	117,000	400,000	577,000	453,409
1982	248,000	500,000	450,000	0	42,000	450,000	492,000	431,484
1983	248,000	500,000	500,000	0	37,000	500,000	537,000	470,949
1984	248,000	500,000	550,000	0	0	550,000	550,000	482,350
1985	248,000	500,000	600,000	0	0	550,000(3)	550,000	482,350

(1) The following assumptions are made:

(a) The returning veterans, 1974-1985, will be classified as Vietnam Era veterans. No termination date for this period has been established by Congress. If re-classified, the basic assumption is made that the incoming veteran population will be eligible for identical GI benefits.

(b) Future veterans will return to New York State at the rate of 50,000 per year. This assumption is based on Veterans Administration and Department of Defense "best estimates." Service is now voluntary; these agencies have no data, at present, with which they can estimate length-of-service and re-enlistment.

(2) The following corrections are not applied:

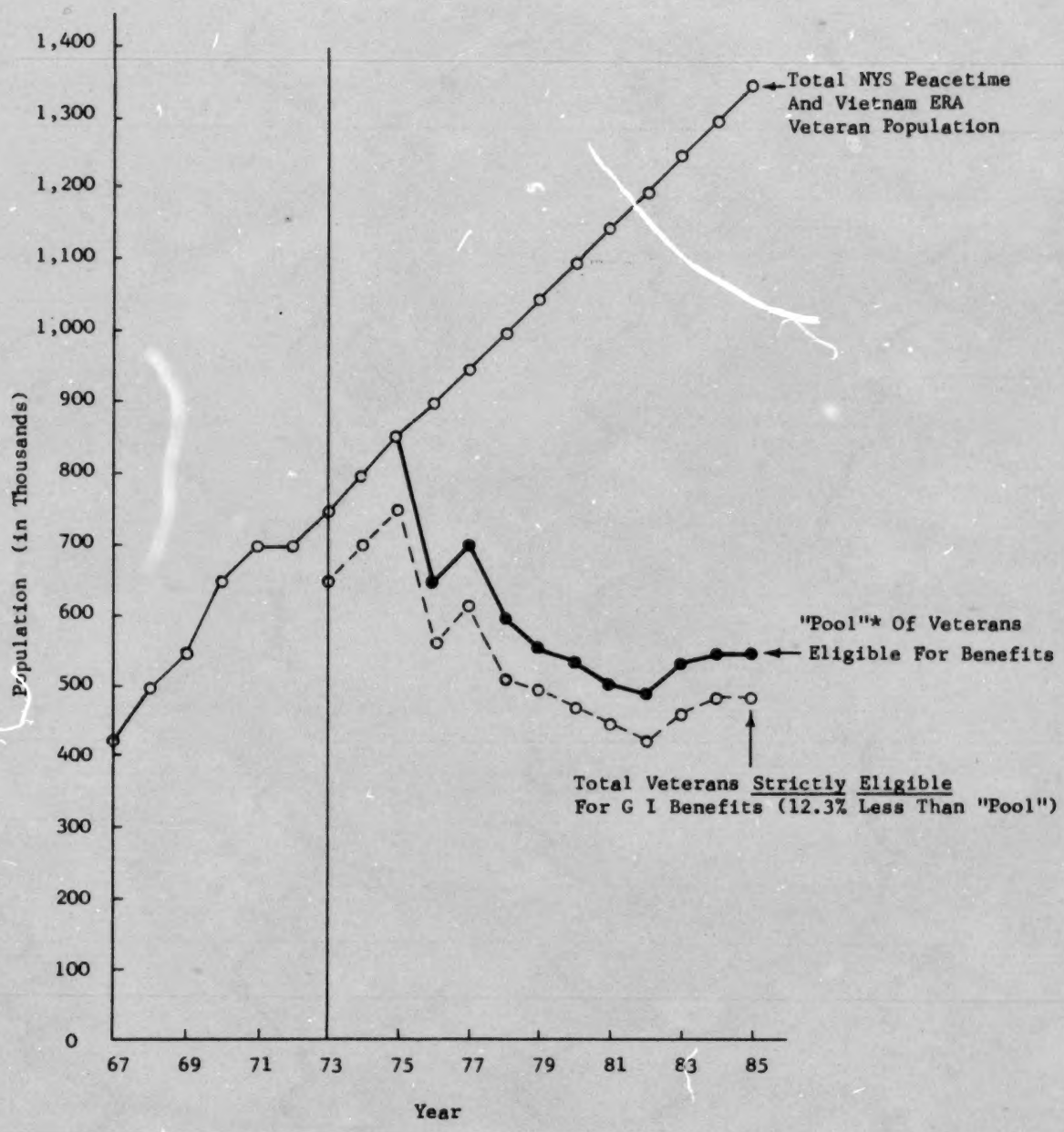
(a) Estimation of emigration
(b) Estimation of mortality

These two columns assume that the December 1973 populations will remain stable.

(3) Incoming veterans equal the number whose benefits terminate at ten years.

Figure 1

Veteran Population and Eligibility for Benefits



*Pool-Eligibility Determined By Date Of Discharge

b. Cumulative Participation Rates to 1980

As of April, 1974, 42.2% (or 216,495) of the New York State resident Vietnam Era veterans had applied for GI benefits. (See Table 3.) Table 9 and Figure 2 project potential changes in this cumulative participation rate for New York State Vietnam Era veterans up to 1980.* Three possibilities are illustrated in the following Table and Figure: (a) the pessimistic, or no-growth, situation in which the cumulative rate plateaus at the current level for New York State (42.2%); (b) a realistic growth to equal California's 1974 rate (56.7% of a total population of 820,000); and (c) an optimistic growth to equal North Dakota's current high of 73.1%. The "trend line" on Figure 2 simply extends the 1972-1974 New York State rate out to 1980; this projection may be more nearly realistic than the figures based on the California current rate.

The trend line on Figure 2 illustrates that, by 1980, New York State will still fall short of the 1974 national average cumulative participation rate (52.5%). Presumably, the national rate will be considerably higher by 1980. Similarly, in 1980 New York State will be behind California's 1974 cumulative participation rate if earlier trends are followed. The gap between the trend line and the realistic projection represents 40,000 individuals and more than $97 million in potential revenues in 1980 alone.**

Table 9

Projected Cumulative Participation Rates for New York State Vietnam Era Veterans

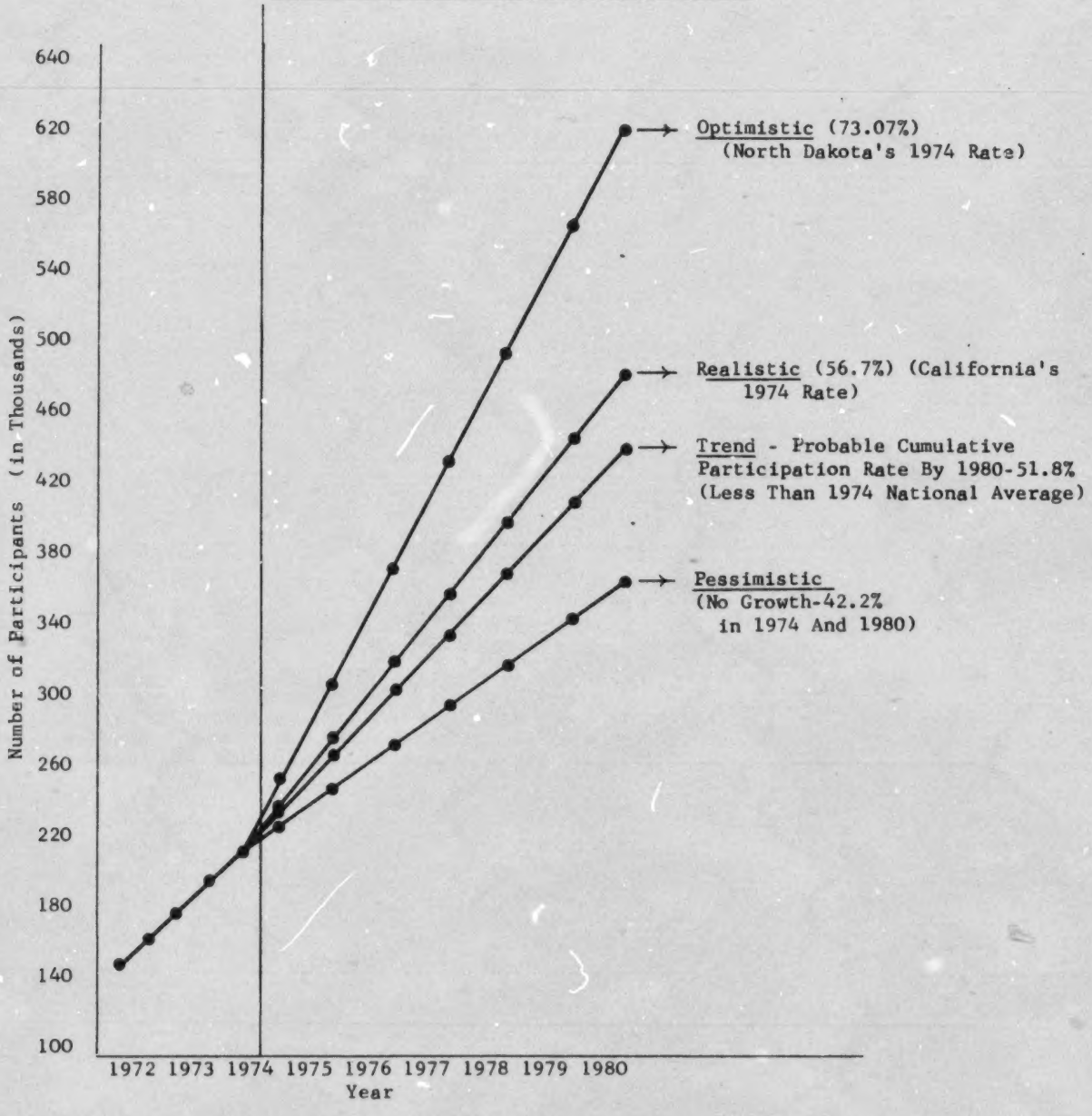
Date	Veteran Population	Pessimistic Number and Percent Participants	Realistic Number and Percent Participants	Optimistic Number and Percent Participants
Dec., 1974	550,000	232,100 (42.2%)	243,650 (44.3%)	256,300 (46.6%)
Dec., 1975	600,000	253,200	277,800 (46.3%)	306,120 (51.02%)
Dec., 1976	650,000	274,300	314,600 (48.4%)	360,295 (55.43%)
Dec., 1977	700,000	295,400	353,500 (50.5%)	418,880 (59.84%)
Dec., 1978	750,000	316,500	394,500 (52.6%)	481,875 (64.25%)
Dec., 1979	800,000	337,600	437,600 (54.7%)	549,280 (68.66%)
Dec., 1980	850,000	358,700	481,950 (56.7%)	621,095 (73.07%)

*Cumulative participation rates for Peacetime veterans are not available for New York State for prior years; therefore, no projections are made for these currently eligible veterans.

**This revenue figure is based on the $2,400 of benefits available to a single veteran for each nine-month school year.

Figure 2

Cumulative Participation Rate Projections



c. Fiscal Year Participation to 1980

Approximately 20% of the resident New York State Vietnam Era veterans participated in each of the last two years in institutions of higher learning, other schools, and on-the-job training. (See Table 3.) Table 10 and Figure 3 project fiscal participation to 1980 and illustrate (a) a pessimistic rate in which participation remains at 20% of the resident population and (b) an optimistic rate based on California's 1974 rate of 30%.

From Table 8 one can determine that 477,965 Vietnam Era veterans will be strictly eligible for benefits in 1980. The following Table 10 and Figure 3 project that, in 1980, 247,583 Vietnam Era veterans will be benefit recipients if they achieve an optimistic fiscal year participation rate of 30%. There will be an equally large number of eligible but non-participating veterans (230,382) in 1980. The State will fail to realize $560 million in revenues by virtue of their non-participation.

Table 10

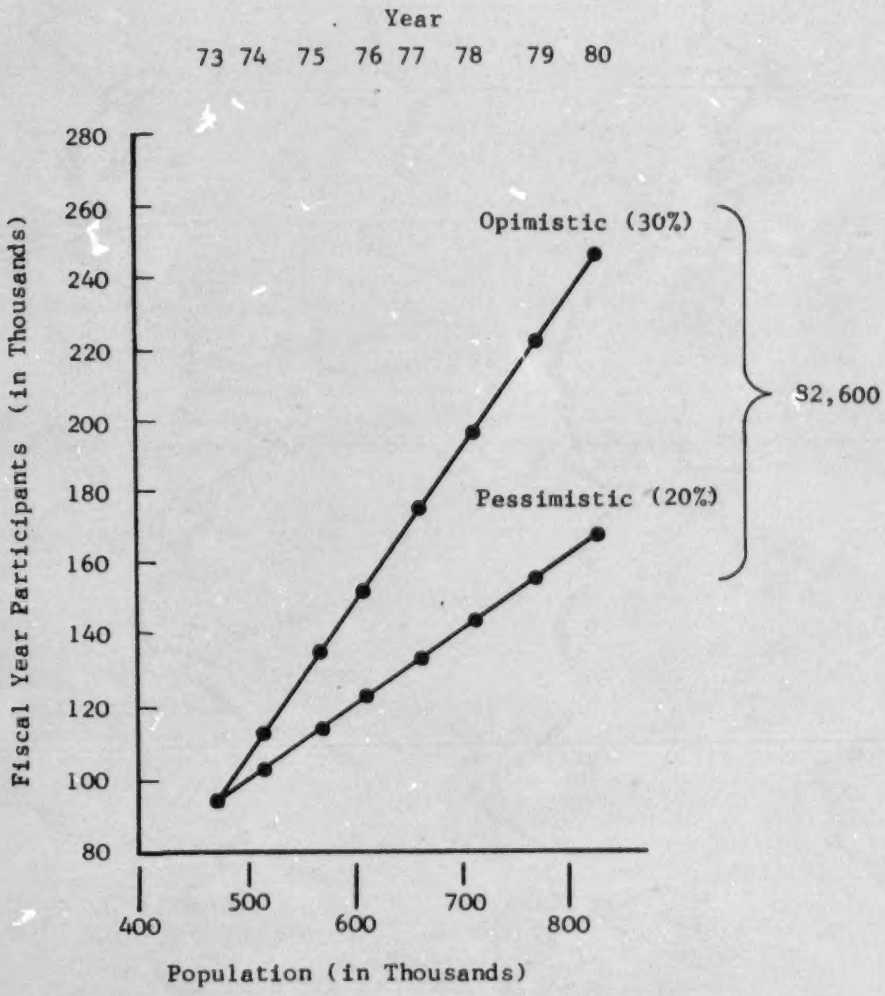
Projected Fiscal Year Participation by New York State Vietnam Era Veterans

Year	Veteran Population(1)	Pessimistic: 20% Plateau	Optimistic: Growth to 30%
1974	525,000	105,000	112,508 (21.43%)
1975	575,000	115,000	131,445 (22.86%)
1976	625,000	125,000	151,813 (24.29%)
1977	675,000	135,000	173,610 (25.72%)
1978	725,000	145,000	196,838 (27.15%)
1979	775,000	155,000	221,495 (28.58%)
1980	825,000	165,000	247,583 (30.01%)

(1) Estimated population in June of each year.

Figure 3

Fiscal Year Participation Projections



C. Summary of Present and Future New York State Veteran Population and GI Benefit Participation

The key features of the foregoing sections, II. A.1, 2, 3 and B.1, 2.a., 2.b., and 2.c. are summarized below and in Table 11.

1. Population

In December, 1973, there were 248,000 Peacetime and 500,000 Vietnam Era veterans resident in New York State. About 50,000 Vietnam Era veterans will be added to this population per year. The resident Vietnam Era veterans are expected to total 850,000 by December, 1980, and over 1 million by December, 1985.

2. Utilization of GI Benefits, April, 1974:

Peacetime veterans are eligible for GI educational benefits until May 31, 1976. Vietnam Era veterans are eligible for ten years from the date of discharge. In the eight years of the current GI Bill, 42.2% of the Vietnam Era veterans and an estimated 36% of the Peacetime veterans had applied for benefits. (The national participation rate for Vietnam Era applicants was 52.5% in April, 1974.) Only slightly more than 4% of the Vietnam Era applicants had used their available benefits to entitlement exhaustion. (No data are available for Peacetime veterans.)

Veterans participating in institutions of higher learning, other schools, and on-the-job training totaled 101,056 in 1973-74, or about 20% of the resident Vietnam Era veteran population. Of these fiscal year participants, less than 56% (or 55,847) were in institutions of higher learning. Vietnam Era veterans constituted about 7% of the degree-credit enrollments in New York State colleges in 1973-74.

3. Projected Utilization of Benefits, December, 1980:

Because Peacetime veterans lose their GI benefits in 1976, the number of resident veterans strictly eligible for benefits declines from a high of 744,000 in December, 1975, to 478,000 in December, 1980, and plateaus at 482,000 by December, 1985.

Projecting the prior two year-increase in applications for GI benefits, the 1980 cumulative participation rate may reach 51.8%, or a rate lower than the 1974 national average (52.5%).

Projecting the fiscal year participation rate to 1980, and optimistically estimating this rate to equal California's 1974 rate (30%), one finds only slightly more than half of the veterans who will be strictly eligible for benefits participating during 1980. Of the estimated number of non-participants, more than 184,000 will be strictly eligible high school graduates.

4. Target Population, 1974 and 1980

New York State, in April, 1974, had more than 667,000 Peacetime and Vietnam Era veterans strictly eligible for GI educational benefits. More than 289,000 of these were non-participating but strictly eligible high school graduates. If all of these eligible, high school graduate non-participants had utilized their full GI educational benefits, New York State would have realized an additional $703 million in revenues in 1974.

By 1980, New York State will have about 478,000 strictly eligible Vietnam Era veterans. Based on optimistic projections for benefit participation, the number of non-participating but strictly eligible high school graduates will total over 184,000. If these individuals were to partake of full GI benefits, the State would receive nearly $448 million in additional revenues in 1980.

Table 11

Veteran Population, Benefit Eligibility, and Non-Participation: 1974, 1980

Date	Resident Veteran Population	Number Strictly Eligible for Benefits	Cumulative Number of Partici-pants	Strictly Eligible Non-Parti-cipants	Strictly Eligible High School Graduates Non-Parti-cipants
April, 1974	248,000 P	217,496	89,280(36%)	128,216	102,573
	513,000 VE	449,901	216,495(42.2%)	233,406	186,725
	761,000	667,397	305,775	361,622	289,298
Dec., 1980	248,000 P	0	0	0	0
	850,000 VE	477,965	247,586(51.8%)	230,379	184,303
	1,098,000	477,965	247,586	230,379	184,303

In summary, New York State has, and will continue to have, a large population of veterans eligible for GI educational benefits. At least 80% of these are high school graduates who could benefit from post-secondary educational opportunities. And yet, fewer than half of these veterans have ever used the available benefits and only about 4% of those receiving benefits have used them to entitlement exhaustion. The State fails to realize sizeable revenues by their non-participation. Above and beyond the revenue loss, the veterans themselves fail to receive the training or education necessary for full employment and an improved quality of life.

III. Characterization of the Vietnam Era Veteran

A. Location

The Federal Veterans Administration maintains regional offices in New York City and in Buffalo. Their data indicate that, of the 500,000 Vietnam Era veterans residing in New York State in December, 1973,

360,000 lived in the Eastern New York region*
140,000 lived in the Buffalo region.

The Vietnam Era veteran population, by county and by higher education region, in 1970 and 1974 is listed in Appendix B.

The number of veterans residing in New York City alone is large. Although the New York City Mayor's Office for Veteran Action claims that 330,000 Vietnam Era veterans reside in the metropolitan district, the 1970 Census data, corrected for growth to 1974, indicate that the New York City Vietnam Era veterans total 226,200. (See Appendix B.) The New York City veterans, therefore, represent at least 45% of the State's resident Vietnam Era veteran population (December, 1973).

B. Age

The average age of the Vietnam Era veteran in the United States is 28.6 years. For New York State the average is estimated to be 27 years.

C. Educationally-Disadvantaged Vietnam Era Veterans

Data on the educational background of New York State Vietnam Era veterans is not available from any Federal or State agency. The Federal VA only provides summary figures for all U. S. Vietnam Era veterans. The 1970 Census data for New York State provide the only available information on the veteran's educational attainments. (See Appendix C.) Since the census figures are by age group, rather than period of service, the figures should be regarded as an approximation of Vietnam Era veteran educational backgrounds.

The Federal VA estimates that, at the time of separation from service, 13.9% of the U. S. Vietnam Era veterans had not graduated from high school (October 12, 1973 data). The 1970 census data indicate, however, that nearly 18% of the New York State veterans in the 16-29 age group had less than a high school diploma.

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*Counties in the Eastern New York Region: Albany, Bronx, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, King, Montgomery, Nassau, New York, Orange, Otsego, Putnam, Queens, Rensselaer, Richmond, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, Washington, and Westchester.

Perhaps the absence of accurate records on the number of educationally disadvantaged Vietnam Era veterans in the State leads to a confusion over the number claimed to be residents of New York City alone. The estimates on the number of educationally disadvantaged in New York City range from 27-30% (New York City VA officer) to 60% (New York City Mayor's Office for Veteran Action) of the resident Vietnam Era veteran population. Utilizing the 1970 census data, updated to 1974, for veteran population growth, one can safely estimate that New York State, as a whole, has about 89,000 educationally-disadvantaged Vietnam Era veterans. Approximately 40,000 of these are estimated to be New York City residents. (Appendix C) Agencies concerned with veterans affairs, however, claim that the draft selected individuals from the major cities and, especially, from among the educationally-disadvantaged. No data are available to support this claim but the number of educationally-disadvantaged veterans in New York City may be higher than the estimates based on the 1970 census data.

The Federal VA figures show that those who are educationally disadvantaged are less likely to take advantage of GI educational benefits. Although 13.9% lacked a high school diploma at the time of separation, only 8.9% of those applying for benefits lacked a high school diploma (Table 12).

Table 12

U. S. Vietnam Era Veterans: Educational Level at the Time of Application for GI Benefits, April, 1974

Total U. S. Vietnam Era Veteran Population:	6,923,000
Number applying for benefits:	3,217,057
Less than high school:	8.9%
Four years of high school:	71.2%
One or more years of college:	19.9%

D. Employment

Data on New York State Vietnam Era veteran employment does not exist in the records of the Veterans Administration, the New York City Mayor's Office, or the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs. Only the following facts are known:

1. In April, 1974, the Veterans Benefits bulletin showed that 101,056 Vietnam Era veterans were in training, as follows:

College, other schools:	67,027
On-the-job, apprenticeships:	10,223
Correspondence, other:	23,796

2. For fiscal year 1974, the New York State Employment Service had 115,684 registered veteran applicants. Only 88,756 of these can be accounted for, as follows:

Applicants placed:	16,209
Unemployment insurance claims:	61,483
On welfare:	11,064

Those receiving unemployment and welfare benefits totaled 72,547, or more than 14% of the 513,000 resident Vietnam Era veterans.

3. The New York City Mayor's Office estimates that 14% of the city's Vietnam Era veterans were unemployed in April, 1974. Estimating the population in New York City at 226,200, then about 32,000 were unemployed.

The above data account for nearly 248,740 Vietnam Era veterans or 48.5% of the 513,000 resident in New York State in April, 1974. Among those accounted for, 14% were clearly unemployed.

IV. Discharge Procedures, Available Counseling, and GI Benefits

A. Discharge and the Veterans Administration

On discharge from Department of Defense Centers, the veterans receive a briefing and printed matter advising them of their benefits and local assistance centers. They are instructed to visit their Federal Veterans Administration or State counseling offices to register their discharge and receive help. Anxious to reach home, the veterans pay little heed to the verbal and written information.

In New York State the Federal Veterans Administration maintains offices in Buffalo and New York City and counseling centers in Albany and Syracuse. The interaction of the Veterans Administration with various State agencies is discussed in the following sections.

B. New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs; Mayor's Office for Veteran Action

The New York State Division of Veterans' Affairs provides a counselor for each of the State counties, with the exception of Hamilton County which is covered by a neighboring county counselor. These counselors assist the veterans in filing the application forms for a certificate of eligibility for GI benefits.*

This State agency attempts to contact, by mail, all veterans discharged into the State. The list of discharged veterans comes from the Federal Veterans Administration. The Veterans' Affairs Division states, however, that the listing is probably incomplete and arrives after, not before, discharge. Information sent by the Veterans' Division includes: a letter of welcome; address of the nearest counseling office; list of counseling services available; and a list of deadlines for applications and benefits. The veteran receives additional mail from other agencies: a letter of welcome from the Governor; a pamphlet from the State Employment Service. The Veterans' Affairs Division has no records on the percentage response to its mailings but indicates that the response is good. The major pitfalls to this contact system appear to be: (1) possible inadequacy of the Veterans Administration list; and (2) disregard, by the veteran, of printed matter received by mail from some agency.

Additional counseling and assistance are provided in New York City by the Mayor's Office for Veterans Action. This office has counselors in the following areas: employment, education, legal and medical matters, GI benefits, and claims. Their outreach program, considered of great importance, ended June 30, 1974. Although the Mayor's Office feels that the outreach program is critical for helping the large number of disadvantaged veterans in New York City, the Office states that such a program should be financed by the Federal government and not by City or private funds.

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*The suggestion has been made, but not implemented, that the veteran be given a certificate of eligibility at the time of discharge.

C. New York State Labor Department

The New York State Labor Department maintains an office of Veteran's Training and Employment. Branch offices in the State, manned by one Labor Department representative, maintain Job Banks which list local employers with open apprenticeship and journeyman positions. The Federal Veterans Administration assists in these offices, providing 24 people in 9 districts. Each employer wishing to list a trainee position with the Job Bank must first be approved: the training program must meet the State and Federal regulations. In New York State there are potentially 300 apprenticeable occupations.

The Labor Department mentioned the following shortcomings to this employment system:

1. Many industrial employers are unaware that available veterans are listed with the local Job Bank, even though the person doing the hiring is often, himself, a veteran.

2. Not all State industries are receptive to hiring veterans. New York Telephone has an excellent record but Consolidated Edison actively hires veterans in steam stations only.

3. Few requests for approval of trainee programs are submitted to the local Job Banks.

4. The employment office often fails to cross-match job and veteran listings and fails to notify the veterans of openings.

D. Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee

The Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee (PVCC) consists of representatives from business, public services, universities, and State agencies. The PVCC maintains two "One-Stop Service Centers": one in Bedford-Stuyvesant and one in Harlem. These centers have been active since 1970. At that time, the Governor stated that his objective included one-stop centers throughout New York State; no funding has been appropriated. The PVCC one-stop centers have one salaried representative from each of the following State agencies: Commerce Department, Civil Service Commission, Division of Employment, and Division of Veterans Affairs. The Department of Commerce covers the rent and overhead for the Bedford-Stuyvesant center; the Division of Employment similarly funds the Harlem center. These centers are well-publicized, including "car cards" on city buses. From 1970 to April, 1974, one of these centers reports that 7,294 veterans have come in and 13,554 services have been rendered. Considering that the New York City population of Vietnam Era veterans may be as large as 226,200, the number of visitors to these two centers has been small.

E. The Veterans Administration Campus Counselors

An additional counseling service was implemented in the Fall

of 1974 by the Federal Veterans Administration: counselors were placed on all "major" campuses (with 500 or more veterans enrolled) in New York State. Approximately 56-58 counselors were provided for the Eastern New York Region and 25-30 for the Buffalo region. The positions are filled through Federal Civil Service examinations; although an open exam, the Veterans Administration hopes to staff these positions primarily with Vietnam Era veterans. The salary ranges from Grade 5 (starting = $8,055) through Grade 9 (starting = $12,167.).

During 1973-74 many campuses failed to receive their benefit checks on schedule from the Veterans Administration; many veterans dropped out of school. The Veterans Administration, in response, pulled counselors from their Veteran Benefits program and drug treatment program and placed them on campus to assist the veterans in obtaining their Veterans Administration benefits. These temporary counselors were replaced by the above-mentioned Civil Service employees in the Fall of 1974. Campuses with low enrollments share a counselor from the nearest campus with a high enrollment. The Veterans Administration counselor is, therefore, itinerant and not an employee of the college. On campus he is to assist with veteran finances, job placement, and drop-outs. As his main responsibility, the counselor must verify that any dropouts which occur are not based on the absence of a Veterans Administration benefit check. The same counselor must also maintain contact with veterans in high school, vocational education, and adult education programs. Although this counseling program is too new to evaluate, it is known that a few counselors are effective while others are not even permitted access to college records.

F. GI Bill Benefits, Other Funding, School Costs, and Information on Post-Secondary Educational Opportunities

1. GI Benefits

The current GI Bill provides training benefits for those who served in active duty for a minimum of six months. Up to 36 months of full-time schooling or on-the-job training is provided for those who completed 18 months of active duty; those enrolled in B.A. programs are eligible for 45 months of benefits. These benefits must be used within 10 years of the date of discharge. Those students needing remedial or preparatory work prior to college receive full benefits which are not charged against the 36-month allotment.

Benefits for a full-time student, effective as of September, 1974, are:

Single:	$270/month ($2,430 for 9 months)
With one dependent:	$321/month
With two dependents:	$366/month
Each additional dependent:	$ 20/month

For part-time students the benefits are pro-rated on the basis of credit hours taken. The veteran must pay the cost of tuition, books, fees, and living expenses from the available benefits.*

The apprenticed veteran receives wages from his employer equal to about one-half the journeyman's rate (a journeyman carpenter, for example, receives $8/hour). In addition, the veteran is eligible for the following GI benefits:

Single:	$189/month
With one dependent:	$212/month
With two dependents:	$232/month
Each additional dependent:	$ 9/month

These benefits are available for 36 months for apprentices. Benefits to those in on-the-job training are reduced by $40 for each six-month period; benefits last only 24 months.

Non-traditional students received full benefits, if attending Empire State College, until change in Veterans Administration Regulations on December 24, 1974. Regents External Degree benefits were received up to November, 1973, when such support was terminated by the Veterans Administration.

2. Other Funding

In New York State the Vietnam Era veteran is eligible for:

a. Scholar Incentive: for full-time studies only.

b. War Service Scholarship: for full-time or part-time study; $350/year for 4 years; up to 600 new ones awarded annually on a competitive basis.

Full GI benefits may be received in addition to the above awards.

Veterans may also receive:

a. Loans: effective January 1, 1975, and retroactive to September 1, 1974, the Veterans Administration education loan program provides loans not to exceed $600 or be less than $50 in any one academic year--based on a full demonstration of need.

b. Work-study benefits: administered by the Veterans Administration; maximum allowed is 100 hours at $2.50/hour or $250/year. In 1973 in New York State only 200 veterans received such benefits.

*The 1944 GI Bill included a maximum payment of $500 per school year for tuition, fees, books, and supplies, in addition to a monthly subsistence allowance of $75 (later increased to $120).

3. School Costs

Table 13 indicates the average U. S. college costs for students. If a veteran is receiving full benefits for 9 months and is single, he will, on the average, be able to cover the costs of full-time study at public four-year institutions in 1974-1975.

Table 13

Average College Costs for Students

	Resident			Commuter		
	72-73	73-74	74-75	72-73	73-74	74-75
Public 2-year	NA	$2,024	$2,153	$1,635	$1,665	$1,922
Public 4-year	$1,985	2,242	2,400	1,760	1,775	2,085
Private 2-year	2,540	3,194	3,617	2,090	2,583	3,287
Private 4-year	3,280	3,693	4,039	2,745	3,162	3,683
Proprietary	NA	NA	3,817	NA	NA	3,414

(Source: Chronicle of Higher Education, March 25, 1974)

4. Information on Post-Secondary Educational Opportunities

The following directories of post-secondary educational opportunities exist:

a. Directory of Schools Approved for Veterans as of January 1, 1973. (Division of Special Occupational Services, Bureau of Veterans Education, State Education Department.) Public, private, proprietary; courses.

b. Institutional Directory: Post-Secondary Education in New York State, Interim Report, November 1973. (Bureau of Research on Higher and Professional Education, State Education Department.) Public and private; no course listings.

c. State University of New York: Information and Application for Admission to the University, 1974. Lists and locates all State University of New York campuses and subject areas taught. (September, 1974: Expected Report on Continuing Education in State University of New York--lists enrollments by campuses; no courses.)

d. Directory of Continuing Education Opportunities in New York City, 1974. (New York Regional Center for Lifelong Learning.) Cost: $10.00. (Supplemented by a telephone answering service with bi-lingual operators: (212) 285-3210.)

e. Educational Services Directory 1974-1975. (Rochester Area Colleges.) Cost: $5.00.

f. Proprietary Schools granting Associate in Occupational Studies Degree. 21 in New York State--all listed in the Veterans Directory and in the Institutional Directory.

g. Directory of Occupational Education Programs in New York State, 1972. (Office of Occupational Education, State Education Department.)

h. Survey of Non-degree-granting Post-Secondary Institutions in New York State--basic data in "Postsecondary Education in Transition: The Regents 1974 Progress Report." Full report not yet authorized. (Division of Higher Education Planning, State Education Department.)

Other post-secondary training available to the New York State veteran includes: External Degree Program, Empire State College, Apprenticeship-Associate Degree Program, On-the-Job Training.

V. Some Unusual Efforts to Assist Veterans

A. Monroe Community College

Begun in early 1971, the Monroe Community College Veterans Program has actively involved the College as well as community and veteran agencies in Rochester. (An excerpt from their program outline is on file in the Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education, State Education Department.) The college veterans office consists of: one coordinator, one secretary, one college work-study person, 3 veterans work-study personnel, and 9 outreach personnel. All but the secretary are veterans. This staff involves itself in aggressive public advertising, letters, rap sessions, a mobile van, and personal home contact as well as on-campus counseling. The advertising campaign, for example, included large signs on twenty city buses at a cost of $2,400 for nine months. Outreach efforts are directed towards all veterans; these include veterans who were enrolled but dropped out, veterans listed with the American Legion, and disadvantaged veterans.*

The record of veteran enrollment at Monroe Community College is as follows: in three years the number enrolled increased from 1,161 to 1,400. Last year 150 veterans were recruited; however, 132 dropped out during the year. Of those enrolled, about one-half are full-time and one-half are part-time students. The enrolled disadvantaged veterans increased from 6 to 16 last year. Five of these were expected to complete high school requirements in 1974. The school offers 23 career area programs, such as: police and fire service, business, marketing, food service, and instrumentation technology. On completion of a career program, the veteran obtains employment information from the school placement office or the department chairmen who receive phoned-in job opportunities. Liberal arts students typically transfer to four-year colleges.

The funding for the Monroe Community College Veterans Program amounted to over $50,000 last year from Cranston Funds, or Cost-of-Instruction Payments, provided by amendment S-659 to the Higher Education Act. In 1973, $25 million was allocated nationally for this program; New York State received about $1.5 million of this sum. This sum amounts to only 17% of that authorized by the Bill which bases allotments to college on their veteran enrollment. In 1974 the national allotment was reduced to $23.75 million. The 1973 awards to New York State schools are found in Appendix E. The Act provides funding to institutions on the basis of veterans receiving benefits, providing that these veterans constitute 10% of the student body.

*Monroe Community College apparently receives a list of disadvantaged veterans from the Buffalo Veterans Administration. No listing or accounting of such veterans was elicited from the New York Veterans Administration, Federal Veterans Administration, or Mayor's Office.

The Monroe Community College program has succeeded in bringing in older veterans, no longer eligible for GI benefits, and has, therefore, regrettably, lost its Cost-of-Instruction Award for 1974-1975. The estimated budget for next year's Monroe Community College program is $25,000; advertising funds will come from the College admissions office, outreach personnel will be paid by the Veterans Administration work-study program, and the remainder of the staff and activity costs will come from whatever sources are found.

The Monroe Community College program is discussed as an example of how Federal funds can be employed on the veteran's behalf. Although a number of New York State campuses received equal or larger Cranston Funds in 1973 (Appendix E), most maintain only one counselor associated with the registrar's office. Knowing that Federal funding may well be withdrawn by 1975, few campuses made an effort to set up a veterans program. Those community colleges which maintain a veterans counselor are listed in Appendix D.

B. Earlier Successful Outreach-Advertising Programs

Since 1971 about 30 "Veterans Opportunity Days" have been sponsored throughout New York State by the Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee. At least six of these were held in Albany, Troy, Colonie, Schenectady, and Saratoga. The veteran response declined from November, 1971 (533) to June, 1973 (130). Consequently, the Executive Director of the Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee states that these Veterans Days have served their purpose; the Employment Service county counselors continue to provide information on employment. The Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee now states that their efforts should be directed towards the New York State campuses and that the colleges themselves should provide counselors and outreach programs for the veterans. The Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee hopes to organize other conferences similar to that held in Syracuse, April, 1974. (A list of participants is on file in the Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education, and the Office of Higher Education Management Services in the State Education Department.) The purpose of such conferences would be to inform the regional colleges and communities of the veterans needs. Colleges would hopefully respond with "concessions" for veterans (special programs; reduced tuition); communities could provide part-time job opportunities.

Another local but short-lived attempt to assist veterans occurred in 1972-73 on Long Island. The Long Island Advertising Council and one citizen raised $5,000 to set up a center staffed by one BOCES man. A "1776" phone line was set up; veterans could call or come in for assistance and the "Veterans Survival Kit." Inevitably, the funding for this one-stop center ran out; the office is now inoperative.

C. Out-of-State Efforts

A letter to Stuart Feldman from Ralph Yehle, Veterans Aiding Veterans Program in Milwaukee, graphically describes the difficulties encountered in maintaining a veterans program when Federal or city

support is withdrawn or not forthcoming. A copy of this letter is on file in the Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education, State Education Department.

For contrast and additional outreach-advertising techniques, a letter describing the start-up activities of a veterans counselor at Gadsden State Junior College in Alabama is also on file.

Although no addresses were given, the Federal Veterans Administration mentioned that successful veterans programs exist in Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio; Denver, Colorado; and Los Angeles, California. A college preparatory program exists at Wilberforce Central State University in Ohio; tuition costs are covered by Health, Education, and Welfare, GI Benefits, and a school work-study program.

D. A Model Program

Southern Illinois University formulated an extensive counseling program to assist veterans; a copy of the report describing the program is on file in the Bureau of Post-Secondary Continuing Education, State Education Department. The report describes in detail the organizational structure of a full-scale program to assist veterans on the campus, as well as:

1. Possible University incentives for veterans: loans, college credit exams, housing assistance, tuition waivers, spouses' employment

2. Outreach and recruitment: to contact dropouts as well as recently discharged veterans

3. Counseling: psychological, financial, vocational, academic

4. Special education programs: remedial instruction for the educationally disadvantaged, tutorials, orientation

5. Financial assistance: loans, part-time jobs, spouses' jobs, scholarships, work-study funds

E. Summary

The foregoing discussion has been lengthy; it is intended as the beginning guide for anyone setting up or serving as a veterans counselor. Clearly, several efforts to reach veterans have been tried in New York State since 1970. A few programs continue, some with precarious funding and only one (Monroe Community College) with an outreach program. The State groups (Labor Department, Veterans' Affairs, Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee) and local groups (Monroe Community College, Mayor's Office) are justifiably proud of their efforts and successes to reach veterans. Representatives of these agencies mentioned the following problems:

1. The Federal Veterans Administration is set up as a record-keeping agency. Those attempting to use its services claim that the main offices fail: (a) to mail benefit checks on time; (b) to provide information on local services available; (c) to assist actively in job-approvals for employers and job-notification for veterans

2. Federal funding to institutions: (a) ends June 30, 1975; (b) was provided in New York State in 1973 only up to 17% of that actually accruing to the institutions

3. GI benefits to individuals are minimal in view of present costs for full-time education, especially if the veteran is married or has dependents.

4. Local efforts: (a) struggle for funding; (b) exist mainly in New York City with no outreach programs

5. State agency programs: (a) have no outreach programs; (b) succeed only if the veteran reads his mail and locates the local county office

VI. 1973-1974 New York State Legislature: Bills for Veterans

Five bills were either carried over from 1973 or introduced in the 1974 Legislative Session. None was passed. Only one (S.8954) stands a chance of being introduced again in the next session.

The proposed legislation was as follows:

A.10317: Mr. Lewis: requires trustees to consider all veterans to be full-time matriculated students, regardless of credit hours and courses taken; no companion Senate bill. This bill died in the Adult Education Committee (Cook).

S.8954 : Mr. Stafford: relates to advanced standing of veterans who have successfully completed U. S. Armed Forces Institute or other comparable course work. This bill passed the Senate (4/30/74) but died in Assembly Rules. It will probably be re-introduced next year.

S.5506 : Mr. McFarland: provides Vietnam veterans free tuition at all State-operated institutions, community colleges, and City University of New York. This bill never got out of the Senate Education Committee; the companion bill (A.7387) is in the Rules Committee; possible re-introduction next year, if pushed.

S.62 : Mr. Calendra: requires colleges and university centers to defer payments of tuition and fees by veterans until Veterans Administration benefits are received. Died in Higher Education Committee.

S.7506 (A.8838): Mr. Padavan: creates Regent College awards for free full-time attendance by Vietnam veterans at statutory, contract, or community colleges. After amendment, this bill was re-committed to the Education Committee where it died.

The April, 1974, Conference on Postsecondary Educational Opportunities for Service Personnel and Veterans, held in Syracuse, was followed by a committee meeting which included representatives of Vietnam Era veteran organizations. These representatives stated that, although legislation on behalf of veterans is the responsibility of the Division of Veterans Affairs, the efforts have not been substantial. One individual in the Senate and one in the Assembly represent the veterans' interests. The veterans stated that there should be, at least, a standing committee to consider legislation in their behalf.

VII. Problems and Needs of the Vietnam Era Veteran in New York State

Representatives of the various local, State, and Federal offices concur that the problems and needs of veterans fall into three categories: funding, interagency coordination and cooperation, and outreach and counseling. The first two categories have been covered in depth earlier in this report and are only briefly summarized here.

A. Funding

Federal funding to institutions (Cranston Funds) has been limited and ends June 30, 1975. Federal GI benefits must be used within 10 years of discharge. At best, the single veteran can afford the average 4-year public college program. Programs at other schools require either part-time study, part-time jobs, or other funding sources, especially if the veteran has dependents.

B. Interagency cooperation

In general, there appears to be some communication between one State agency and another and little interaction with the Veterans Administration. Staff in the New York State Veterans Affairs Division, the Mayor's Office, the Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee, the Labor Department, and the State Education Department Bureau of Veterans Education are informative, helpful, and concerned. Their offices should be closely involved in any future State Education Department programs directed towards veterans.

C. Outreach and Counseling

The third problem category is repeatedly listed as the major, fundamental need of the Vietnam Era veteran. The success of any veterans' counselor in post-secondary education, however, will be inextricably involved with the support and participation of the campus he serves. For simplicity, the positions of the veteran, the counselor, and the institution are discussed separately.

1. The Vietnam Era veteran:

--is part of a large population in New York State. At present, Vietnam Era veterans number 513,000; they may total 850,000 by 1980. The 1980 population will equal the total degree-credit enrollment in New York State in 1972-73.

--needs motivation. The existing Vietnam Era veteran in New York State is faced with extraordinary war memories, a multitude of government mailings and forms to fill out, the stigma of drug addiction (See Appendix G.), unconcerned and unresponsive communities to which he returns, and limited one-stop centers to assist him. He responds to personal contact from fellow Vietnam veterans.

--may be educationally disadvantaged. In New York State an estimated 20% never graduated from high school. Special effort may be required to overcome his dislike of formal education. Faced with limited opportunities, he may be among the unemployed.

--averages 27 years of age and may well have a family to support.

2. The Counselor:

--is typically a lone individual, hidden from view, on New York State campuses. His position may be funded by the Federal Cost-of-Instruction Awards which terminate in 1975. How many campuses will pick up the cost of his salary?

--has many counseling responsibilities, including: knowledge of GI benefits and application procedures; knowledge of other scholarships, work-study funds, and loans available; knowledge of part-time job opportunities--for the veteran and his spouse; knowledge of inexpensive housing available; knowledge of remedial or preparatory training programs, College Proficiency Examination Program exams, and transfer of credits; self-help or psychological counseling services; knowledge of campus courses--vocational and/or academic; outreach--county-wide advertising, personal contact with dropouts or disadvantaged veterans and other eligible but non-participating veterans.

(The Federal Veterans Administration counselors appointed in Fall, 1974, will deal primarily with Veterans Administrations benefit checks. These counselors will be responsible for other campuses, educational institutions, and employers. It seems unlikely that they will adequately fulfill the counseling needs of the veterans.)

3. The Institution:

--has a financial problem. With limited Federal funding (Cranston Funds) and no State support, the institutions are hesitant to mount serious counseling services or special supportive programs.

--has potential appeal to the veteran, if it is a two-year institution, because the two-year campus has lower average costs for the student; may be readily accessible to the commuter; offers more opportunities for part-time study; has a smaller, probably more heterogeneous, student body and easier access to teachers and counselors.

The absence of outreach programs for veterans, the limited use of GI benefits to titlement exhaustion, and the large size of the Vietnam Era veteran population in New York State underscore the need for effective campus outreach and counseling programs in New York State.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

New York State Vietnam Veteran Enrollment in Schools and Colleges
April, 1974*

	Veteran	Service-men/ Women	Dependent	Total	%
Institutions of Higher Learning	57,036	435	2,306	59,777	89.6
A. Degree-Granting	55,847	434	2,268	58,549	87.8
1. Colleges and universities	32,535	357	1,533	34,425	51.6
a. Public	15,619	58	678	16,355	24.5
(1) SUNY	7,049	50	407	7,506	11.3
(2) CUNY	8,570	8	271	8,849	13.2
b. Private	16,632	295	841	17,768	26.6
c. Proprietary	160	1	5	166	.2
d. Not Identified	124	3	9	136	
2. Junior Colleges	23,312	77	735	24,124	36.2
a. Public	22,035	60	670	22,765	34.1
(1) SUNY	14,742	56	548	15,346	23.0
(2) CUNY	7,293	4	122	7,419	11.1
b. Private	559	2	30	591	.9
c. Proprietary	621	14	26	661	1.0
d. Not Identified	97	1	9	107	
B. Non-Degree-Granting	1,189	1	38	1,228	1.8
1. General	302	1	12	315	.5
a. 52.22c**	260	0	9	269	.4
b. Mortuary	26	0	1	27	<.1
c. Other Exempt	8	0	0	8	<.1
d. Not Identified	8	1	2	11	
2. Hospital	887	0	26	913	1.3
a. Residencies	645	0	4	649	1.0
b. Nursing	124	0	19	143	.2
c. Paramedical	115	0	3	118	.1
d. Not Identified	3	0	0	3	

*Data from Peter Riley, Chief, Bureau of Veterans Education, State Education Department

**Highly specialized post-secondary schools requiring high school graduation.

APPENDIX A, Continued

California, New York, and National Vietnam Era Veteran Participation in GI Benefits

Participation Rate: Cumulative

Date	State	Total Population	Cumulative Trainees	% Participation
April, 1972	California	636,000	312,867	49.2
	New York	482,000	146,662	30.4
	U. S.	5,885,000	2,353,576	40.0
November, 1972	California	725,000	352,571	48.6
	New York	461,000	165,775	36.0
	U. S.	6,220,000	2,716,660	43.7
April, 1973	California	756,000	384,600	50.9
	New York	478,000	180,478	37.8
	U. S.	6,476,000	2,985,967	46.1
November, 1973	California	798,000	431,885	54.1
	New York	500,000	201,737	40.3
	U. S.	6,787,000	3,400,017	50.1
April, 1974	California	820,000	464,927	56.7
	New York	513,000	216,495	42.2
	U. S.	1,002,000	3,677,706	52.5

Fiscal Year Participation: Vietnam Era Veterans

Year	State	Number in Training	% of Total Population
1972	California	299,816	36
	New York	86,537	18
	U. S.	1,496,916	25
1973	California	257,694	34
	New York	94,810	20
	U. S.	1,686,597	26

In April, 1974, the Population of Vietnam Era Veterans = 7,002,000
California: 820,000 or 11.7% of U. S. Total
New York: 513,000 or 7.3% of U. S. Total

APPENDIX A, Continued

April, 1974, Cumulative Participation Rates By State

50% or greater participation rate:

North Dakota	=	73.1%
Washington, D. C.	=	70.2
South Dakota	=	62.3
Arizona	=	61.7
New Mexico	=	61.1
California	=	56.7
Colorado	=	55.0
Hawaii	=	55.0
Alabama	=	53.4
Nebraska	=	53.0
Washington	=	52.8
Idaho	=	52.7
North Carolina	=	51.8
South Carolina	=	50.8

45-49%:

Texas	Tennessee	Montana
Oklahoma	West Virginia	Wyoming
Kansas	Minnesota	Georgia
Arkansas	Wisconsin	Michigan
Louisiana	Oregon	Missouri
Florida	Utah	

40-45%:

Iowa	Maine	Nevada
Illinois	New York	Pennsylvania
Mississippi	Kentucky	Virginia
Rhode Island	Maryland	Puerto Rico

Less than 40%:

Alaska	Delaware	Vermont
Indiana	Massachusetts	New Jersey
Ohio	Connecticut	New Hampshire

APPENDIX B

New York City Veteran Population

In 1970, the 5 boroughs of New York City had the following Vietnam Era Veteran population:

Kings	55,915
Bronx	33,997
Queens	46,744
Richmond	6,833
New York	30,490
	173,979

From 1970 to December, 1973, the New York State Vietnam Era Veteran population grew from 383,000 to 500,000 which represents an increase of approximately 30%.

If New York City's population grew proportionately, the New York City Vietnam Era Veteran population would be:

$$174,000 + 52,000 = 226,000$$

and not 330,000 as estimated by the Mayor's Office.

APPENDIX B, Continued

New York State Counties: 1970 Census of Veterans

	Total Veterans (of all wars)	Vietnam Era
Albany	45,920	7,334
Allegany	4,773	918
Bronx	192,734	33,997
Broome	34,214	5,093
Cattaraugus	9,831	1,141
Cayuga	9,584	1,503
Chautauqua	20,095	2,964
Chemung	15,257	2,605
Chenango	5,861	944
Clinton	8,251	1,642
Columbia	7,244	1,197
Cortland	5,536	1,016
Delaware	5,051	835
Dutchess	34,668	5,692
Erie	165,372	25,160
Essex	4,743	779
Franklin	5,431	751
Fulton	6,763	974
Genesee	8,155	1,378
Greene	4,031	501
Hamilton	409	70
Herkimer	9,284	1,406
Jefferson	12,218	2,143
Kings	338,308	55,915
Lewis	2,387	348
Livingston	5,938	1,239
Madison	7,052	1,225
Monroe	59,644	15,878
Montgomery	7,484	974
Nassau	226,624	26,023
New York	210,114	30,490
Niagara	34,316	5,163
Oneida	40,730	6,568
Onondaga	71,617	11,244
Ontario	10,941	1,642
Orange	28,923	4,425
Orleans	4,904	738
Oswego	13,912	2,477
Otsego	6,384	1,252
Putnam	7,671	1,266
Queens	300,496	46,744
Rensselaer	22,705	3,869
Richmond	41,747	6,833
Rockland	31,712	4,578
Saratoga	15,201	2,505
Schenectady	23,679	4,008
Schoharie	2,644	487
Schuyler	2,122	445

APPENDIX B, Continued

	Total Veterans (of all wars)	Vietnam Era
St. Lawrence	13,639	2,352
Steuben	13,905	2,018
Suffolk	174,057	25,564
Sullivan	7,124	1,183
Tioga	6,118	1,030
Tompkins	10,685	2,324
Ulster	21,852	3,674
Warren	7,097	1,072
Washington	7,506	1,225
Wayne	8,223	1,197
Westchester	135,955	18,314
Wyoming	4,729	738
Yates	2,185	306

APPENDIX B, Continued

Veterans in Regional Districts, 1970 and 1974 Estimate

Region 1: Western

County	1970 Total Veterans	1974 Estimate	1970 Vietnam Era Veterans	1974 Estimate
Chautauqua	20,095		2,964	
Cattaraugus	9,831		1,141	
Allegary	4,773		918	
Erie	165,372		25,160	
Wyoming	4,729		738	
Niagara	34,316		5,163	
	239,116	310,851	36,084	46,909

Region 2: Genesee Valley

Steuben	13,905		2,018	
Chemung	15,257		2,605	
Schuyler	2,122		445	
Livingston	5,938		1,239	
Yates	2,185		306	
Seneca	4,053		534	
Ontario	10,941		1,642	
Orleans	4,904		738	
Genesee	8,155		1,378	
Monroe	59,644		15,878	
Wayne	8,223		1,197	
	135,327	175,925	27,980	36,374

Region 3: Central

Tioga	6,118		1,030	
Broome	34,214		5,093	
Tompkins	10,685		2,324	
Cortland	5,536		1,016	
Chenango	5,861		944	
Cayuga	9,584		1,503	
Onondaga	71,617		11,244	
Madison	7,052		1,225	
Oswego	13,912		2,477	
	164,579	213,953	26,856	34,913

Region 4: Northern

Lewis	2,387		348	
Jefferson	12,218		2,143	
St. Lawrence	13,639		2,352	
Franklin	5,431		751	
	33,675	43,778	5,594	7,272

APPENDIX B, Continued

Region 5: Northeast

County	1970 Total Veterans	1974 Estimate	1970 Vietnam Era Veterans	1974 Estimate
Clinton	8,251		1,642	
Essex	4,743		779	
Oneida	40,730		6,568	
Herkimer	9,284		1,406	
Hamilton	409		70	
Warren	7,097		1,072	
Washington	7,506		1,225	
Fulton	6,763		974	
Montgomery	7,484		974	
Saratoga	15,201		2,505	
Schenectady	23,679		4,008	
Schoharie	2,694		487	
Albany	45,920		7,334	
Rensselaer	22,705		3,869	
Greene	4,031		501	
Columbia	7,244		1,197	
	213,741	277,863	34,611	44,994
Region 6: Mid-Hudson				
Sullivan	7,124		1,183	
Ulster	21,852		3,674	
Dutchess	34,668		5,692	
Orange	28,923		4,425	
Putnam	7,671		1,266	
Westchester	135,955		18,314	
Rockland	31,712		4,578	
	267,905	348,277	39,132	50,872
Region 7: New York City				
Bronx	192,734		33,997	
New York	210,114		30,490	
Kings	338,308		55,915	
Queens	300,496		46,744	
Richmond	41,747		6,833	
	1,083,399	1,408,419	173,979	226,173
Region 8: Long Island				
Nassau	226,624		26,023	
Suffolk	174,057		25,564	
	400,681	520,885	51,587	67,063
New York State Totals:	2,538,423	3,299,951	395,823	514,570

APPENDIX C

New York State and New York City Educationally-Disadvantaged Veterans

In 1970 in New York State, there were 171,554 Vietnam Era veterans in the 16-24 age group. There were 212,444 veterans (Vietnam, Korean, and other service) in the 25-29 age group. The educational background of these veterans, in 1970, was was follows:

Age group:	16-24		25-29	
Less than 8 years school:	6,321	4%	6,349	3%
1-3 years high school:	28,199	16%	27,512	13%
4 years high school:	95,046	55%	100,620	48%
1-3 years college:	32,556	19%	44,102	21%
4 years college:	7,045	4%	21,352	10%
5 or more years college:	2,387	1%	12,509	6%
Total veterans:	171,554	99%*	212,444	98%*

Total veteran population: 383,998

*Sum of percentages does not equal 100% because of rounding off.

The 1970 census data indicate that 68,381 veterans, between the ages of 16 and 29, had less than 4 years of high school and were, therefore, educationally disadvantaged.

The total veteran population grew from 383,998 in 1970 to 500,000 in December, 1973. The Vietnam Era veteran population, therefore, increased about 30% over the last three years. If the number of educationally-disadvantaged veterans increased proportionately with the veteran population growth, then 88,895 educationally-disadvantaged veterans resided in New York State in December, 1973.

The updated 1970 census data indicate that 226,200 Vietnam Era veterans were residents of New York City in 1974 (Appendix B). This number represents about 45% of the State's total Vietnam Era veteran population. Similarly, if 45% of the State's educationally-disadvantaged reside in New York City, then about 40,000 Vietnam Era veterans are educationally-disadvantaged New York City residents. This estimation differs radically from the New York City Mayor's Office for Veteran Action estimates.

	Mayor's Office	Census Data
Number of residents:	330,000	226,200
Educationally-disadvantaged:	198,000 (60%)	40,000 (45% of State total)

For simplicity in making the projections in Chapter II, the percent of educationally-disadvantaged in New York State was rounded to 20% (up from 17.8% census data figures). The number of educationally-disadvantaged in the State could, therefore, be as high as 100,000; in this case, the number in New York City would total 45,000.

APPENDIX D

Two-Year Colleges, New York State, with Designated Veterans Counselors

Alfred Agricultural and Technical College

Clinton Community College

Community College of the Finger Lakes

Corning Community College

Erie Community College--City Campus, Buffalo

Farmingdale Agricultural and Technical College

Fulton Montgomery Community College

Genesee Community College

Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College

Jamestown Community College

Jefferson Community College

Kingsborough Community College

Monroe Community College

Orange County Community College

Queensborough Community College

Rockland Community College

Schenectady County Community College

Ulster County Community College

Westchester Community College

APPENDIX E

1973 Cost-of-Instruction Awards

In 1973 Congress appropriated $25 million for the U. S. Cost-of-Instruction Awards. New York received about $1.47 million of this total.

The law states that "each college shall be entitled to an amount..." and "the Commissioner shall pay such amounts." Congress, therefore, has no authority to appropriate at any level below full funding at the demand level. The Office of Education's interpretation, however, was that the appropriated $25 million would be distributed pro rata. The issue lies unresolved in the courts.

Recent amendments to the law are as follows:

To be eligible for Veterans Cost-of-Instruction funds under the current law, a college must have increased its veteran enrollment by 10 percent over the previous academic year. The amendment approved by the Senate makes a school eligible for funds if 10 percent of its students are veterans.

The current law is also amended so that the maximum amount available to an institution participating in the Veterans Cost-of-Instruction program is $135,000. Under the old system, the Office of Education gave a school a set amount of money for each student in various categories.

The logic of the amendment seems to be grounded in a finding that smaller schools, with small veteran enrollments, get very little money under the per capita system. The little money does not cover the cost of a full-time veterans office coordinator or outreach and related expenses. The amendment allows all schools at least an amount that would cover those expenses ($9,000, approximately). If there's money left in the kitty after the initial $9,000 payment to all eligible schools, the remaining money will be distributed among all schools up to the $135,000 maximum.*

The President recommended rescinding Fiscal 1975 appropriation for this program and its elimination in 1976.

*Higher Education Daily (Vol. 2, No. 100, May 22, 1974) page 2.

APPENDIX E, Continued

Fiscal Year 1973 Veterans Cost-of-Instruction Awards

New York State

City University of New York Senior Colleges

York College		$ 6,877.45
Queens College		42,810.82
Medgar Evers College		7,010.74
Brooklyn College		57,365.43
John Jay College of Criminal Justice		76,558.91
Richmond College		12,128.84
Bernard Baruch College		46,436.15
Hunter College		21,512.04
City College		40,544.99
Herbert H. Lehman College		21,778.61
	SUBTOTAL	$ 333,023.98

Private Institutions

Dowling College		$ 9,136.62
Long Island University		45,363.21
New York Institute of Technology		26,736.77
Fordham University		31,255.10
Saint Francis College		12,741.95
Marymount Manhattan College		2,025.91
Manhattan College		12,008.89
Mercy College		5,451.32
Pace University		11,728.99
Dominican College of Blauvelt		932.99
Manhattanville College		626.43
LeMoyne College		2,505.74
Utica College of Syracuse University		11,755.65
Syracuse University		15,900.78
Villa Maria College of Buffalo		519.81
Hilbert College		3,585.34
Elmira College		2,399.11
Rosary Hill College		6,424.29
D'Youville College		1,252.87
Trocaire College		413.18
	SUBTOTAL	$ 202,764.95

APPENDIX E, Continued

State University of New York Units

State University of New York at Buffalo	$ 112,598.32
State University of New York at Stony Brook	19,726.03
State University College at Brockport	25,563.87
State University College at Buffalo	39,505.38
State University College at Cortland	6,770.83
State University College at Fredonia	5,891.15
State University College at Old Westbury	4,051.83
State University College at Oswego	15,780.83
State University College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry	6,051.09
State University Agricultural & Technical College at Alfred	11,782.31
State University Agricultural & Technical College at Farmingdale	42,011.12
SUBTOTAL	$ 289,732.76

Community Colleges

Adirondack Community College	$ 5,731.22
Bronx Community College	29,109.23
Clinton Community College	6,710.85
Community College of the Finger Lakes	6,024.44
Erie Community College	33,427.62
Fashion Institute of Technology	7,410.59
Fulton-Montgomery Community College	4,984.82
Genesee Community College	8,703.44
Herkimer County Community College	4,505.00
Hostos Community College	3,412.07
Hudson Valley Community College	22,445.03
Jamestown Community College	11,515.74
Jefferson Community College	6,664.20
LaGuardia Community College	32,334.70
Monroe Community College	50,541.29
Nassau Community College	88,127.38
New York City Community College	91,112.95
Niagara County Community College	13,748.24
North Country Community College	3,785.27
Rockland Community College	27,936.33
Staten Island Community College	54,659.77
Suffolk County Community College	74,905.61
Ulster County Community College	11,975.57
Westchester Community College	35,773.43
SUBTOTAL	$ 635,544.79

APPENDIX E, Continued

Other

Empire State College		$ 7,837.10
Urban Center, Brooklyn		2,292.48
University of the State of New York		373.20
	SUBTOTAL	$ 10,502.78
	GRAND TOTAL	$1,471,569.26
	TOTAL FOR NEW YORK STATE	$1,471,568.68

APPENDIX F

Sources of Information: Veterans

1. Mr. Edgar Allen Peden
   Statistician
   Federal Veterans Administration
   Washington, D. C. 20420
   Phone: (202) 389-3638
   --data on discharge numbers and dates
   --other sources contacted in same office:
   Mr. Stephen T. Anderson (202) 389-3869
   Mr. Alex Kraut (202) 389-3609
   Mr. Michael Facine (202) 389-3930

2. Mr. Robert E. Woodworth
   Executive Director
   New York State Post-Vietnam Coordinating Committee
   Room 921, Twin Towers
   99 Washington Avenue
   Albany, New York 12230
   Phone: (518) 474-2880
   --data on Veteran's Days, other state activities for veterans

3. Mr. Robert M. Briber
   Executive Director
   Hudson-Mohawk Association of Colleges & Universities
   849 New Loudon Road
   Latham, New York 12110
   Phone: (518) 785-3219

4. Mr. Vincent M. Di Gaspari
   Mr. Roland M. Yeager
   Monroe Community College Veterans Program
   1000 East Henrietta Road
   Rochester, New York 14623
   Phone: (716) 442-9950

5. Mr. Peter B. Riley
   Chief, Bureau of Veterans Education
   Room 1616, Twin Towers
   99 Washington Avenue
   Albany, New York 12230
   Phone: (518) 474-7606
   --data on GI Bill, participation rates, students enrolled

6. Mr. Walter G. Hannahs
   Director, Student Financial Aid
   State Education Department
   Room 775, Education Building Addition
   Albany, New York 12234
   Phone: (518) 474-1215
   --data on school costs; scholarships for GI's

APPENDIX F, Continued

7. Mr. John J. Parkinson
Director of Public Relations
New York State Division of Veterans Affairs
Empire State Plaza
Agency Building #4, 13th Floor
Albany, New York 12223
Phone: (518) 474-3752
--Vietnam veteran population in New York State, average age, discharge procedure

8. Mr. Anthony P. Mercadante
New York State Department of Labor: Veterans Training and Employment
State Office Campus
Building #12, Room 428
Albany, New York 12226
Phone: (518) 457-4168
--apprenticeships

9. Mr. John H. Northcutt
Associate Public Information Specialist
New York State Department of Labor
Division of Employment
State Office Campus
Building #12, Room 543
Albany, New York 12226
Phone: (518) 457-2707
--Mr. Thomas J. Doyle (518) 457-6586
--Ms. Marjorie W. Hughes, Research and Statistics Division, (518) 457-6397
--Mr. Daniel Debonis (518) 457-6398
--data on employed, welfare, unemployed Vietnam Era Veterans in New York State
--Mr. David Nyhan (518) 457-3800 (Field Services)--Manpower Planning Report

10. Mr. Newton H. Fulbright
Information Services Representative for New York-New Jersey
Federal Veterans Administration
252 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10001
Phone: (212) 620-6525
--1970 Census data by county

11. Mr. William Tackman
Public Relations
New York City Mayor's Office for Veterans Affairs
300 West 43rd Street, Third Floor
New York, New York 10036
Phone: (212) 582-2330

APPENDIX F, Continued

12. New York State Office of Planning Services
Staff Associate of Mr. Charles Guinn
488 Broadway
Albany, New York 12207
Phone: (518) 474-7730
--data on Census and Health Department population statistics to 1973

13. Department of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301
Mr. Julius R. Levine--Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Processes, Public Affairs)
Phone: (202) 697-6648
--numerous Veterans Administration and Congressional contacts, present volunteer army

14. Mr. Stratton M. Appleman
Public Information Services
Federal Veterans Administration
Washington, D. C. 20420
Phone: (202) 389-2741
--update on county population, age distribution of Vietnam Veterans in New York State

APPENDIX G

Drugs and the Vietnam Era Veteran

The returning Vietnam Era veteran has suffered from an extended public discussion of drug availability and addiction in Vietnam. (See New York Times, June 2, 1974.) As a result, the Veterans Administration and Department of Defense are anxious to alter the public's image of the veteran. Because of the persistent drug stigma, local agencies are reluctant to estimate the actual number of Vietnam Era addicts. The New York State Division of Veterans Affairs states that drug addiction "was a problem" and that those needing medical aid are being treated. Their estimate puts the number of New York State veteran addicts at "much less than ten percent" of the veteran population.

Even if drug-addicted, the veteran may receive an honorable discharge or discharge "under conditions less than honorable." In the latter case, the veteran may apply for a review of his case and, thereby receive either a change in status to full benefit eligibility or eligibility for medical and educational benefits. (Those who were dishonorably discharged are ineligible for any GI benefits.) Those veterans seeking medical help for drug addiction do so in the Veterans Administration hospitals or in private programs. The Veterans Administration actively encourages participants in their drug programs to take advantage of their GI educational benefits.

A possible source for further information:

Mr. Harry McKnight
Acting Chief
Alcohol and Drug Dependence Division
Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences Section
Veterans Administration
Washington, D. C. 20420
Phone: (202) 389-5193